

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 168606  
ORIGIN STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 LAB-04 STRE-00  
SSO-00 AGR-01 INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00  
SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /096 R

\$RAFTED BY STR: MSMITH: CAH  
APPROVED BY STR: WKELLY  
STATE: EB/TEX: ST. JOHN  
COMMERCE: RSHEPHERD (INFO)  
LABOR: HBLACKMAN (INFO)  
-----014330 032306Z /75  
O 032249Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168606

PASS AMERICAN CONSUL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ETRD

SUBJECT: TEXTILES: US/HK BILATERAL

- -

1. DURING JUNE MEETING IN HONG KONG, LAURIE MILLS TOLD  
USTEXDEL THAT HONG KONG HAD PREPARED A COMPARISON OF ITS  
BILATERALS WITH THE US AND THE EC. IT WOULD BE VERY MUCH  
IN INTEREST OF HONG KONG IF IT COULD GIVE US A COPY OF THIS  
COMPARISON, AS PRESSURE IS BUILDING DOMESTICALLY TO REOPEN  
THE EXISTING BILATERAL AGREEMENT. AMERICAN TEXTILE MANU-

FACTURERS INSTITUTE HAS COMPLETED ITS OWN COMPARISON AND  
CONCLUDED THAT EC GOT BETTER TERMS. INDUSTRY/LABOR PRESS  
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CONFERENCE HELD JUNE 29 ON CAPITOL HILL PUBLICLY CALLED  
FOR REOPENING OF BILATERAL.

2. USG REMAINS PERSUADED THAT OUR BILATERAL IS COMPARABLE  
TO EC/HK BILATERAL, BUT SUPPORTIVE EVIDENCE WOULD HELP  
BUTTRESS OUR POSITION. HONG KONG HAS CONSISTENTLY MAIN-  
TAINED THAT US/HK BILATERAL IS AS QUOTE TOUGH QUOTE AS

EC/HK BILATERAL AND THAT THIS IS BASED ON COMPARISON HK HAD MADE. WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS COMPARISON WHICH WE WOULD MATCH WITH COMPARISON MADE INTERNALLY WITHIN USG AND, ULTIMATELY, WITH ATMI COMPARISON.

3. CONGEN IS REQUESTED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH HKG AUTHORITIES AND, IF POSSIBLE, OBTAIN COPIES OF HK COMPARISON STUDY. COPIES SHOULD BE FORWARDED BY FASTEST MEANS TO GENEVA FOR PHELAN AND DEPARTMENT FOR ST. JOHN (EB/TEX). CONGEN SHOULD IMPRESS UPON HKG THAT IT IS IN HKG'S INTEREST TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE IN THIS REGARD, AS WE HAVE NO MORE INTEREST THAN HKG DOES IN REOPENING THE EXISTING BILATERAL. HOWEVER, UNTIL WE HAVE ALL EVIDENCE IN, WE WILL REMAIN UNDER STRONG DOMESTIC PRESSURE TO OPEN UP THE AGREEMENT. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXTILES, TRADE AGREEMENTS  
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**Draft Date:** 03 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE168606  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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